The wife, in the preſent ſtate of things, who is faithful to her huſband, and neither ſuckles nor educates her children, ſcarcely deſerves the name of a wife, and has no right to that of a citizen. But take away natural rights, and there is of courſe an end of duties.

Women thus infallibly become only the wanton ſolace of men, when they are ſo weak in mind and body, that they cannot exert themſelves, unleſs to purſue ſome frothy pleaſure, or to invent ſome frivolous faſhion. What can be a more melancholy ſight to a thinking mind, than to look into the numerous carriages that drive helter-ſkelter about this metropolis in a morning full of pale-faced creatures who are flying from themſelves. I have often wiſhed, with Dr. Johnſon, to place ſome of them in a little ſhop with half a dozen children looking up to their languid countenances for ſupport. I am much miſtaken, if ſome latent vigour would not ſoon give health and ſpirit to their eyes, and ſome lines drawn by the exerciſe of reaſon on the blank cheeks, which before were only undulated by dimples, might reſtore loſt dignity to the character, or rather enable it to attain the true dignity of its nature. Virtue is not to be

be acquired even by ſpeculation, much leſs by the negative ſupineneſs that wealth naturally generates.

Beſides, when poverty is more diſgraceful than even vice, is not morality cut to the quick? Still to avoid miſconſtruction, though I conſider that women in the common walks of life are called to fulfil the duties of wives and mothers, by religion and reaſon, I cannot help lamenting that women of a ſuperiour caſt have not a road open by which they can purſue more extenſive plans of uſefulneſs and independence. I may excite laughter, by dropping an hint, which I mean to purſue, ſome future time, for I really think that women ought to have repreſentatives, inſtead of being arbitrarily governed without having any direct ſhare allowed them in the deliberations of government.

But, as the whole ſyſtem of repreſentation is now, in this country, only a convenient handle for deſpotiſm, they need not complain, for they are as well repreſented as a numerous claſs of hard working mechanics, who pay for the ſupport of royalty when they can ſcarcely ſtop their children's mouths with bread. How are they repreſented whoſe very

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